

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of offering a portable live language interpretation service to a user[[s]], the method comprising:

offering the user a card to carry, the card having a predetermined amount of units of live language interpretation service associated with the card ~~in addition to~~, a predetermined amount of units of telephone service associated with the card, and a telephone number to call printed on the card for said language interpretation services;

providing a language interpretation service[[s]] to the user at the telephone number specified on the card; ~~[[and]]~~

deducting one or more units from the predetermined amount of units of live language interpretation service associated with the card based on an amount of units of language interpretation service provided to the user as units are used for the interpretation[[.]]; and

deducting one or more units from the predetermined amount of units of telephone service associated with the card based on an amount of units of telephone service provided to the user for a duration of a telephone call in which the live language interpretation service is provided.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the card is language specific, and the telephone number printed on the card is specific to a certain language.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising requesting, during the telephone call, the user to specify the language for the language interpretation service~~wherein the telephone number offers a general language interpretation service, and the user must specify what language is desired once they call.~~

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~step of~~ offering the user the card is ~~done~~ effectuated by including the card in a commercial package.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A method of offering an assurance package wherein the assurance package comprises:

a travel ticket;

travel insurance; and

~~pre-paid live interpretation services through to a [[']]calling[[']] card medium that provides a pre-paid live interpretation service.~~

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim 5 wherein the pre-paid live interpretation service is in a language appropriate for the traveler's destination.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 5 wherein the assurance package is offered prior to departure of a user.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The method of claim 5, further comprising:
accident insurance;
car rental; and
accommodations.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method of offering a portable live language interpretation service to users, the method comprising:

having the user use a mobile telephone, the mobile telephone having a predetermined number of units of live language interpretation service ~~associated with the card,~~
~~in addition to a predetermined number of units of telephone service,~~ and a telephone number to call programmed into the telephone for said language interpretation services;

providing a language interpretation service[[s]] to the user as programmed into the telephone; ~~[[and]]~~

deducting one or more units from the predetermined number of units of live language interpretation service of measure from the mobile telephone based on an amount of units of language interpretation service provided to the user as used for the interpretation[[.]]; and

deducting one or more units from the predetermined number of units of telephone service from the mobile telephone based on an amount of units of telephone service provided to the user for a duration of a telephone call in which the live language interpretation service is provided.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method of claim 9 wherein the telephone number to call is programmed into the phone and accessed by pressing a single button on the mobile telephone.

Claim 11 (original): The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the card is rechargeable to provide additional minutes for at least one of the language interpretation service or the telephone time.

Claim 12 (original): The method as claimed in claim 9 wherein the mobile telephone is rechargeable to provide additional minutes for at least one of the language interpretation service or the telephone time.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein ~~[[the]]~~ language interpretation service access expires after a predetermined time from an initial activation.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 9 wherein ~~[[the]]~~ language interpretation service access expires after a predetermined time from an initial activation.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method of offering pre-paid live language interpretation service to users in combination with telephone time, the method comprising:

offering the user a card to carry with them, the card having a predetermined number of minutes of live language interpretation service associated with the card in addition to a number of minutes of telephone time, and a telephone number to call printed on the card for said language interpretation service~~[[s]]~~, the telephone number being compatible with a plurality of distinct telecommunications networks;

providing live language interpretation services to the user at the telephone number specified on the card; and

deducting minutes or other unit of measure from the card as used for at least one of the interpretation time or telephone time.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 15 wherein the card is language specific, and the telephone number printed on the card is specific to a certain language.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The method of claim 15 further comprising requesting, during a telephone call to the telephone number, the user to specify the language for said language interpretation service~~wherein the telephone number offers a general language interpretation service, and the user must specify what language is desired once they call.~~

Claim 18 (currently amended): The method of claim 15 wherein the ~~step of~~ offering the user the card is ~~done-effectuated~~ by including the card in a travel package.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A method of offering portable live language interpretation service to users, the method comprising:

having the user access a mobile telephone[[]], the mobile telephone having a predetermined number of minutes of live language interpretation service associated with the card in addition to a number of minutes of telephone time[,] and a telephone number to call programmed into the telephone for said language interpretation services, the telephone number being compatible with a plurality of distinct telecommunications networks;

providing live language interpretation services to the user as programmed into the telephone; and

deducting minutes or other unit of measure from the mobile telephone as used for at least one of the interpretation or telephone time.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 19 wherein the telephone number to call is programmed into the phone and accessed by pressing a single button on the mobile telephone.

Claim 21 (original): The method as claimed in claim 15 wherein the card is rechargeable to provide additional minutes for at least one of the language interpretation service or the telephone time.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 19 wherein the mobile telephone is rechargeable to provide additional minutes for at least one of the language interpretation service or the telephone time.

Claim 23 (original): The method as claimed in claim 15 wherein the language interpretation service access expires after a predetermined time from an initial activation.

Claim 24 (original): The method as claimed in claim 19 wherein the language interpretation service access expires after a predetermined time from an initial activation.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A method of providing on demand portable live language interpretation service comprising:

providing a user with access data, the data having a predetermined number of units of live language interpretation service associated with the card, and a telephone number to call for said language interpretation services;

the user calling the telephone number, the telephone number being compatible with a plurality of distinct telecommunications networks;

accessing the interpretation units available to the user associated with that data, and if there is a sufficient amount of interpretation time available;

connecting the user to a live interpreter to provide essentially instantaneous interpretation services; and

assessing units of measure from the data as interpretation units is used.

Claim 26 (original): The method of claim 25 wherein the data is language specific, and the related telephone number is specific to a certain language.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The method of claim 25 further comprising requesting, during a telephone call, the user to specify the language for the language interpretation services wherein the telephone number offers a general live language interpretation service, and the user must specify what language is desired once they call.

Claim 28 (original): The method as claimed in claim 25 wherein the data is contained on a card or in a mobile phone.

Claim 29 (original): The method as claimed in claim 25 wherein the card is rechargeable to provide additional units for at least one of the language interpretation service or the telephone time.

Claim 30 (original): The method as claimed in claim 28 wherein the telephone is rechargeable to provide additional minutes for at least one of the language interpretation service or the telephone time.

Claim 31 (original): The method as claimed in claim 25 wherein the language interpretation service access expires after a predetermined time from an initial activation.

Claim 32 (currently amended): A medium for offering portable live language interpretation service to users in combination with telephone time, the medium comprising:

a card for a user to carry ~~with them~~, the card having data relating to a predetermined number of units of live language interpretation service associated with the card in

addition to a number of units of telephone service, and a telephone number to call printed on the card for said language interpretation services, the telephone number being compatible with a plurality of distinct telecommunications networks;

the card having data for providing access to a language interpretation service[s] to the user at the telephone number specified on the card; and

a computerized system having ~~for permitting~~ a relationship with the card data for assessing minutes or other unit of measure from data related to the card as units are used for at least one of the interpretation or telephone service.

Claim 33 (original): The medium of claim 32 wherein the card is language specific, and the telephone number printed on the card is specific to a certain language.

Claim 34 (currently amended): The medium of claim 32 wherein the user is requested to specify the language for the language interpretation service during a telephone call to the telephone number.

Claim 35 (currently amended): A mobile telephone for offering portable live language interpretation service to users, comprising:

a predetermined number of units of live language interpretation service associated with the mobile telephone in addition to a number of units of telephone time, and program with the phone directing the phone to call a telephone number for said portable live language interpretation services, the telephone number being compatible with a plurality of distinct telecommunications networks;

a computerized system for permitting a relationship with the phone for accessing minutes or other unit of measure from data related to the mobile telephone as units are used for at least one of the interpretation or telephone service.

Claim 36 (currently amended): The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 35 wherein the telephone number to call is programmed into the mobile telephone and accessed by pressing a single button on the mobile telephone.

Claim 37 (currently amended): The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 35 wherein the mobile telephone is enabled to conduct telephoning to numbers unrelated to the interpretation service.

Claim 38 (currently amended): A method of offering a portable live language interpretation service to users, the method comprising:

offering the user a card to carry ~~with them~~, the card having access to a predetermined number of units of live language interpretation service, and a telephone number to call on the card for said language interpretation services, the telephone number being compatible with a plurality of distinct telecommunications networks;

providing language interpretation services to the user at the telephone number specified on the card; and

accessing units in relation to the card as units are used for the interpretation.

Claim 39 (original): A method as claimed in claim 38 wherein the user is provided with a prepaid calling card to effect payment for the units to the language interpretation service.

Claim 40 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 38 wherein the user is provided with a debit card to effectuate payment for the units to the language interpretation service.

Claim 41 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 38 wherein the user is provided with a credit card to effectuate payment for the units to the language interpretation service.

Claim 42 (currently amended): A method of offering a portable live language interpretation service to users, the method comprising:

having the user use a mobile telephone, the mobile telephone having access to a language interpretation service associated with the card, and a telephone number to call for accessing the telephone to the language interpretation service, the telephone number being compatible with a plurality of distinct telecommunications networks;

providing language interpretation services to the user; and

accessing predetermined units of measure of the language interpretation service as used for the interpretation.

Claim 43 (currently amended): A medium for offering portable live language interpretation service to users, the medium comprising:

a card for a user, the card having a first data set relating to a predetermined number of units of live language interpretation service associated with the card, a second data set

related to a predetermined amount of units of telephone service associated with the card, and a telephone number to call on the card for said language interpretation service[[s]];

the card having an access data set for providing access to said language interpretation service[[s]] to the user at the telephone number specified on the card; and

a computerized system that deducts one or more units from the predetermined amount of units of live language interpretation service associated with the card in the first data set based on an amount of units of language interpretation service provided to the user and deducts one or more units from the predetermined amount of units of telephone service associated with the card in the second data set based on an amount of units of telephone service provided to the user for a duration of a telephone call in which said live language interpretation service is provided ~~for permitting a relationship with the card data for assessing minutes or other unit of measure from data related to the card as units are used for the interpretation services.~~

Claim 44 (currently amended): A method of offering a portable live language interpretation service to users, the method comprising:

offering the user a through a telephone company access to predetermined units of live language interpretation service, and a predetermined number to call for said language interpretation services, the predetermined number being compatible with a plurality of distinct telecommunications networks;

providing language interpretation services to the user at the predetermined number; and

accessing units for charging in relation to units are used for the interpretation.

Claim 45 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 44 wherein the telephone company is a mobile telephone company, and the user accesses[[d]] the telephone company through a mobile telephone

Claim 46 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 44 wherein the user is provided with one of a prepaid calling card, a debit card or a credit card to effectuate payment for the units to the language interpretation service.

Claim 47 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 44 wherein the user is charged on account to a predetermined subscribers telephone account to effectuate payment for the units to the language interpretation service.

Claim 48 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 47 wherein the account is for use of a mobile telephone, and the company is a mobile telephone company,

Claim 49 (currently amended): A method of offering a portable live language interpretation service to users, the method comprising:

having the user use a mobile telephone, the mobile telephone having access to a language interpretation service associated with the card, and a telephone number to call for accessing the telephone to the language interpretation service, the telephone number being compatible with a plurality of distinct telecommunications networks;

providing language interpretation services to the user; and

accessing predetermined units of measure of the live language interpretation service as used for the interpretation.

Claim 50 (currently amended): A medium for offering portable live language interpretation service to users, the medium comprising:

a card for a user, the card having data relating to a predetermined number of units of live language interpretation service associated with the card, and a telephone number to call on the card for said language interpretation services, the telephone number being compatible with a plurality of distinct telecommunications networks;

the card having data for providing access to language interpretation services to the user at the telephone number specified on the card; and

a computerized system having ~~for-permitting~~ a relationship with the card data for assessing minutes or other unit of measure from data related to the card as units are used for the interpretation service.

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S REJECTIONS/OBJECTIONS

The Applicant has amended claims 1, 3-6, 9, 13-15, 17-19, 22, 25, 27, 32, 34-38, and 40-50 to provide clarification. These amendments are not made for any purpose regarding patentability. Further, no new subject matter has been added to these amended claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-50 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over D'Urso et al. (US Patent No. 5,353,335) in view of Davitt et al. (US Patent No. 5,392,343). The Applicant submits that the amended claims 1-50 are allowable over D'Urso et al. and Davitt et al.

Claim 1

With respect to amended independent claim 1, Applicant submits that the Amendment clarifies that there are two types of predetermined amounts of units and two deductions for those predetermined amounts of units. For example, a user has (1) a predetermined amount of units of live language interpretation service associated with the card and (2) a predetermined amount of units of telephone service associated with the card. If the user makes a telephone call and receives language interpretation services for a duration, a first deduction to the amount of units of live language interpretation service is made and a second deduction to the predetermined amounts of telephone service based on the duration of the telephone call is made. If the user had only made a telephone call without a language interpretation service, then only one deduction to the amount of telephone service based on the duration of the telephone call is made.

The subject matter of amended claim 1 is distinct from D'Urso et al. which teaches one type of predetermined amount of units and one deduction for that type of predetermined amount of units. See D'Urso, col. 2, lines 59-63. The main idea behind D'Urso is the utilization of one type of predetermined amount of units and one deduction for any kind of telephone call as D'Urso states: "[t]he card holder will be able to use the card as a payment vehicle to make any kind of telephone call handled by the services provider, such as interlata, intralata, and international telephone calls." See D'Urso et al., col. 2, lines 59-63. D'Urso et al. goes on to explain that "[t]he system decrements the balance associated with the card while the call is in

progress and keeps track of the call duration that the customer is allowed which is being made.” See D’Urso et al., col. 3, lines 18-21. Accordingly, regardless of whether the card in D’Urso is made for language interpretation and telephone service, or just simply telephone service, there is only one deduction, and that deduction is based on the duration of the call.

Therefore, D’Urso et al. does not teach both deductions as recited in claim 1. As a result, the combination of D’Urso et al. and Davitt et al. does not teach claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 1 is in a condition for allowance. Applicant has also amended dependent claims 3 and 4 to clarify the language. Further, Applicant submits that claims 2-4 are allowable as these claims depend from claim 1.

Claim 5

With respect to amended independent claim 5, Applicant submits that D’Urso et al. does not teach an assurance package including a travel ticket. At most, D’Urso et al. discusses how the user can obtain travel information in the desired language. See D’Urso et al., col. 11, lines 32-36. The term ticket is not present anywhere in D’Urso.

In addition, D’Urso et al. does not teach an assurance package including travel insurance. The term insurance is not present anywhere in D’Urso et al.

Therefore, D’Urso et al. does not teach the travel ticket or the travel insurance of the assurance package in independent claim 5. Accordingly, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 5 is in condition for allowance. In addition, claim 6 has been amended to clarify the language. Further, Applicant submits that claims 6-8 are in a condition for allowance as they depend from claim 5.

Claim 9

With respect to amended independent claim 9, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 9 is allowable for the reasons discussed above in the discussion regarding amended independent claim 1. The combination of D’Urso et al. and Davitt et al. does not teach two types of predetermined amounts of units or two deductions.

Therefore, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 9 is in a condition for allowance. Further, Applicant amended claims 10 and 12-14 to clarify the language. Applicant

submits that claims 10-14 are in a condition for allowance as these claims depend from amended independent claim 9.

Claim 15

With respect to amended independent claim 15, Applicant submits that the combination of D'Urso et al. and Davitt et al. does not teach "offering the user a card to carry with them, the card having a predetermined number of minutes of live language interpretation service associated with the card in addition to a number of minutes of telephone time, and a telephone number to call printed on the card for said language interpretation services, the telephone number being compatible with a plurality of distinct telecommunications networks." On the contrary, D'Urso et al. is specifically geared to providing a card that operates on a single telecommunications network. For instance, D'Urso et al. states: "[t]he card may be obtained directly from the telecommunications services provider or may be obtained from an intermediary such as a travel agent or hotel which has purchased the card from the telecommunications services provider." See D'Urso et al., col. 2, lines 55-59. Accordingly, D'Urso et al. goes to great length to make sure that the card is issued from the telecommunications services provider, i.e., the user has to obtain the card directly or indirectly from the telecommunication services provider. Accordingly, there is no teaching for the telephone number being compatible with a plurality of distinct telecommunications networks. Even though D'Urso et al. allows for "any type of telephone call such as interlata, intralata, and international phone calls," the card appears to be utilized through the telecommunication service provider's network rather than a plurality of distinct telecommunications networks. As a result, D'Urso et al. does not allow for compatibility of varying technologies as recited in claim 15. Therefore, Applicant submits that amended claim 15 is in a condition for allowance.

In addition, Applicant has amended claims 17 and 18 to clarify the language. Claims 16-18 depend from claim 16 and are, therefore, also in a condition for allowance.

Claim 19

With respect to amended independent claim 19, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 19 is allowable for the reasons discussed above in the discussion regarding amended independent claim 15.

In addition, Applicant has amended claims 20 and 22 to clarify the language. Claims 20-24 depend from claim 16 and are, therefore, also in a condition for allowance.

Claim 25

With respect to amended independent claim 25, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 25 is allowable for the reasons discussed above in the discussion regarding amended independent claim 15.

In addition, Applicant has amended claim 27 to clarify the language. Claims 26-31 depend from claim 25 and are, therefore, also in a condition for allowance.

Claim 32

With respect to amended independent claim 32, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 32 is allowable for the reasons discussed above in the discussion regarding amended independent claim 15.

In addition, Applicant has amended claim 34 to clarify the language. Claims 33 and 34 depend from claim 32 and are, therefore, also in a condition for allowance.

Claim 35

With respect to amended independent claim 35, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 35 is allowable for the reasons discussed above in the discussion regarding amended independent claim 15.

In addition, Applicant has amended claims 36 and 37 to clarify the language. Claims 36 and 37 depend from claim 35 and are, therefore, also in a condition for allowance.

Claim 38

With respect to amended independent claim 38, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 38 is allowable for the reasons discussed above in the discussion regarding amended independent claim 15.

In addition, Applicant has amended claims 40 and 41 to clarify the language. Claims 39-41 depend from claim 38 and are, therefore, also in a condition for allowance.

Claim 42

With respect to amended independent claim 42, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 42 is allowable for the reasons discussed above in the discussion regarding amended independent claim 15.

Claim 43

With respect to amended independent claim 43, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 43 is allowable for the reasons discussed above in the discussion regarding amended independent claim 1.

Claim 44

With respect to amended independent claim 44, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 44 is allowable for the reasons discussed above in the discussion regarding amended independent claim 15.

In addition, Applicant has amended claims 45-48 to clarify the language. Claims 45-48 depend from claim 15 and are, therefore, also in a condition for allowance.

Claim 49

With respect to amended independent claim 49, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 49 is allowable for the reasons discussed above in the discussion regarding amended independent claim 15.

Claim 50

With respect to amended independent claim 50, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 50 is allowable for the reasons discussed above in the discussion regarding amended independent claim 15.

Conclusion

Therefore, because all the claims limitations are not taught or suggested by D'Urso et al. alone or in combination with Davitt et al., these references cannot be used as the basis of a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Further, if an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, then any claim depending there from is nonobvious. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988). In light of these amendments and arguments, Applicant has overcome the Examiner's 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw these rejections with respect to claims 1-50.